

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TORONT 01873 212152Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /047 W

-----024801 212158Z /46

R 211007Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL TORONTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5900

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONCUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS TORONTO 1873

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, BENC, SOPN, PGOV, CA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO STREETCAR CONTRACT AWARD

USDOC ALSO FOR BIC/OED/OBEC; DOT FOR TP1-42

REF: TORONTO 1857

1. AS NOTED REFTEL, TORONTO MEDIA HAS CRITICIZED ONTARIO GOVERNMENT DECISION TO AWARD CONTRACT TO ONTARIO FIRM DESPITE LOW BID BY QUEBEC-BASED COMPANY. LEAD FRONT PAGE ARTICLE OF JULY 21 TORONTO STAR HEADLINED "ONTARIO CRITICIZED -- STREETCAR DEAL HELPS SEPARATISTS GOYER WARNS," QUOTED FEDERAL SUPPLY MIISTER JEAN PIERRE GOYER AS STATING ONTARIO'S PURCHASING POLICY "PLAYING RIGHT INTO HANDS OF QUEBEC SEPARATISTS." GOYER CALLED THE DECISION TO REJECT THE QUEBEC BID AS "CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN TAXPAYERS AND OF A UNITED COUNTRY" AND CONTINUED THAT "SURELY THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HAS NOT PAID TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO THE SCENARIO THAT'S TAKING PLACE NOW."

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2. ARTICLE ALSO QUOTED QUEBEC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER BERNARD LANDRY AS SAYING THAT THE TWO PROVINCES MIGHT HAVE TO NEGOTIATE A BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO AVOID A COSTLY ECONOMIC WAR AND CALLING ONTARIO'S STREETCAR DECISION AS PROOF OF ONTARIO PROTECTIONISM AND JUSTIFICATION FOR "BUY-QUEBEC PROGRAM OF PARTI

QUEVECOIS. LANDRY CONTINUED THAT QUEBEC WOULD LIKE TO
AVOID ECONOMIC WAR WITH ONTARIO, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW
OF COMING CONTRACT FOR 1200 MONTREAL BUSES FOR WHICH BOTH
BOMBARDIER (LOW BIDDER IN STREETCAR TENDER) AND GENERAL
MOTORS IN OSHAWA, ONTARIO COMPETING.

3. TORONTO STAR JULY 20 EDITORIALY RAPPED ONTARIO GOVERNMENT
KNUCKLES FOR DECISION, AS DID BUSINESS COLUMNIST JACK
MCARTHUR WHO SAID "ONTARIO'S CHEAP SHOT AT QUEBEC IN
THE MATTER OF THE TORONTO STREETCARS IS ANOTHER REMINDER
THAT ONLY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TRULY HAS THE INCLINATION
TO SEE CANADA AS ONE COUNTRY."
CANTWELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, STREETCARS, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770260-0272
Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770731/aaaabawp.tel
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Reference: 77 TORONTO 1857
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1784736
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Type: TE
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